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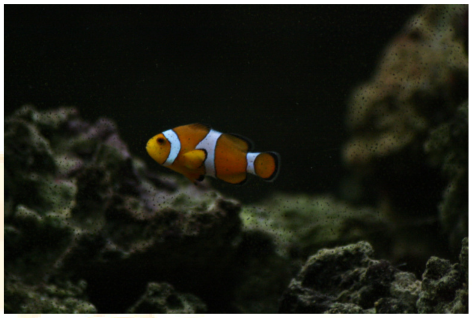
Amphiprion percula (*Lacepède* 1802)

...do you know how to say it in ...



Castelhano		Pes payaso naranja
English	:	True clownfish
		Orange clownfish
		Blackfinned clownfish
French		clownfish d'orange
German		Clown anemonenfisch
		Orange Clownfisch
Italian		Pagliaccio arancione
Polish		Pomarańczowy clownfish
Portuguese	:	Peixe palhaço
		Peixe palhaço laranja

Species is similar to

Amphiprion ocellaris (Cuvier 1830)	False Percula clownfish

Distribution – Tropical Indo-Pacific region (Lat 25N – 35S). It is found in the Great Barrier Reef of Northwest Australia, Japan, other Pacific Islands, Southeast Asia and Indian Ocean Islands. It is found in coral reefs, generally over its host anemone from 1 to 20m.

Description – Bright orange body with three white lines across their bright orange bodies. The first bar is placed just behind the eyes, the second bar in the middle of the fish with an anterior projecting bulge and the third bar near the caudal fin. Size up to 11 cm. In their natural habitat, they live approximately 6 to 10 years and in the aquarium they are expected to live as long as 18 years. Females larger than males. Males areate the eggs.

The *Amphirpion percula* is very similar to the *Amphiprion ocellaris.*

The true clownfish (*Amphiprion percula*) has a

- brilliant orange body,
- 9-10 spines in the first dorsal-fin,
- a thick black edging outlining the bands,
- pronounced bulging face similar to a frog when viewed head-on,
- bright orange iris, making the eyes look smaller than they are.

in contrast with the False Percula clownfish (*Amphirpion ocellaris*) which has a

- lustreless orange body,
- 10-11 spines in the first dorsal-fin,
- white bands are thinly outlined in black
- plain face when viewed head-on,
- grayish orange iris, making the eyes look larger than they are.

Behaviour – It has a symbiotic association

In the outer reefs with the

- magnificent sea anemone/Ritteri anemone (*Heteractis magnifica*)
- Sebae's sea anemone (*Heteractis crispa*)

In the shore reefs with the

- giant carpet anemone (*Stichodactyla gigantea)*

living within the anemone's tentacles with mutual benefits for both species. Besides cleaning and caring for the host, when the clownfish brings food back to an anemone, the host is rewarded with crumbs from the fish meal and the fish, in turn, is protected from predators by the anemone while living within its tentacles.

Temperature – The ideal temperature profile is from 26 ºC to 28 ºC. Cultured specimens have temperature tolerance and are suitable for any aquarium, from 30 ºC down to 25 ºC.

Feeding – It is an omnivore species and feeding is not a major problem. Captive raised specimens can be fed fresh, frozen, pellet or flake food. In nature, feeds on algae, copepods, isopods and zooplankton, worms and small crustaceans as well as the dead tentacles of the anemone and any uneaten prey captured by the host anemone.

Special details – Captive bred specimens are highly resilient, thus becoming the ideal guest for the aquarium. It likes to live in groups. Protandrous hermaphrodite. Oviparous. Eggs adhere to the substrate. Pair is maintained during breeding, and male guards and aerates the eggs. Monogamous.

Recomended density : 2 clownfish per 100 l.

Taxonomy

Kingdom	Animalia		
Phylum	Chordata	**Subphylum**	Vertebrata
Superclass	Osteichthyes	**Subclass**	Neopterygii
Class	Actinopterygii	**Infraclass**	Teleostei
Superorder	Acanthopterygii	**Suborder**	Labroidei
Order	Perciformes	**Infraorder**	
Family	Pomacentridae	**Subfamily**	Amphiprioninae
Genera	Amphiprion	**Subgenus**	Actinicola
Species	*Amphiprion percula* (Lacepède 1802)	**<- Percula complex**	

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